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| 10/052,743 | 01/23/2002 | John Cooper | 23742-005 | 3270 |

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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| APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. VW |
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Commissioner for Patents

Attached is a signed and initialed copy of the PTO-1449 which was filed on February 9, 2004. The original signed and initialed copy of the PTO-1449 has been scanned and made of record in this Application Serial No. 10/052,743. The applicants instantly claimed fluid distribution device is patentably distinct over GB 1 468 897 because while GB 1 468 897 discloses a fluid distribution device comprising an inlet having a first width, and an outlet, the outlet having a second width, and a separator, wherein the separator receives fluid from the inlet and directs solid matter along a first path and substantially debris free fluid towards the outlet; and at least one aperture intermediate the separator and the outlet having a third width; GB 1 468 897 fails to disclose or fairly suggest that the second width is less than the first width and the third width is less than the second width. Furthermore, GB 1 468 897 suggest that the third width is greater than the second width; therefore, solid matter passing through the aperture will not necessarily pass through the outlet. The applicants instantly claimed fluid distribution device is patentably distinct over WO 91/09251 because while WO 91/09251 discloses a centrifugal oil filter for cleaning lubricating oil comprising an inlet having a first width, and an outlet, the outlet having a second width, and a separator, wherein the separator receives oil from the inlet and directs solid matter along a first path and substantially debris free oil towards the outlet; and at least one aperture intermediate the separator and the outlet having a third width which is less than the second width; WO 91/09251 fails to disclose or fairly suggest that the second width is less than the first width. Furthermore, WO 91/09251 is directed to cleaning and pumping lubricating oil not cooling fluid. Therefore the centrifugal oil filter of WO 91/09251 as well as other centrifugal oil filters are not constructed and arranged in a manner which would make their outlets capable of providing a flow of fluid to a device to be cooled. Lobsinger et al. has been reviewed but is no better than the prior art of record and therefore does not anticipate or render obvious the applicants instantly claimed fluid distribution device.

David A Reifsnyder
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Art Unit: 1723